The World

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"SUCCESS IN LIFE."

John D. Rockefeller says that religion is indispensable to "success in life." Since Mr. Rockefeller himself does not add a definition of "success in life" fools would be stepping in where angels fear to tread were such a definition ventured here.

But it might be suggestive without being presumptuous to turn back the pages of history and see what constituted success in the life of olden times. Then the successful man was the robber baron who took foolish persons of the lower classes by surprise and, at the point of the sword, relieved them of their wallets. After having seized a very great number of wallets—so many that he could not possibly spend their contents no matter how much he ate and drank—he became a successful man. Of course, for true success, the wallets had to be seized from vulgar burghers who could not very well afford to part with them. Robbing other barons was perfectly proper as an amusement, but not as a means to success.

When the baron had accumulated so many superfluous wallets that he could not find room in his donjon keep in which to store them he generally began lavishing charity on the beggars whom he had impoverished, bestowing on them as alms the gold that he had seized from them as booty. This was the second step in his "success in life."

Finally, the baron customarily got an addled stomach from his conscientious attempts to keep down by gastronomic means his store of superfluous wallets. He got old, too, and could no longer rob with any degree of comfort; yet having been absolutely absorbed in robbing all his life, he had never had time to learn other amusements. So he generally grew sad, and began thinking a great deal about his soul (for in those days robbers still had souls). To insure its future comfort he gave an enormous number of his superfluous wallets to some monastery or some abbey, and frequently started on a crusade. This was the acme of his success.

Thus we see that religion undoubtedly was responsible for the last and highest success in life in the Middle Ages; and if present conditions and methods are similar to mediaeval ones the correctness of Mr. Rockefeller's contention must be generally admitted.

GOOD GANG MEDICINE.

Magistrate Ommen has devised a more effective means of suppressing gang rowdyism than the infliction of a nominal penalty for carrying concealed weapons.

In the case of the twenty-one young roughs arrested in an East Broadway pool-room he held each of the prisoners in bail to keep the peace for six months. That meant for some immediate confinement on "the Island" out of mischief's way. For those lucky enough to obtain bail it will mean the enforced good behavior which the political friend furnishing the bail will exact as part of the reward for his favor. In all events, these twenty-one toughs are impotent to do harm for the time being.

It is easy to believe that as they left the court-room they "muttered threats and curses against the police." To give up a "gun" and pay a $10 penalty therefor or to run the gauntlet of a double line of clubbing policemen on the stairs is a form of punishment mild in the extreme by comparison with this more effectual severity.

The imposition of such a sentence on every group of gang suspects brought before a magistrate would do much to squelch the gang spirit.

COLLEGE AND BUSINESS LIFE.

President Harper, of the University of Chicago, thinks that for "the average young man scholarship is the best preparation for life;" he would "never advise a capable young man to leave his studies to embark in business." President James, of Northwestern University, thinks that "too much time can be spent by young men in poring over books in college." The opinions are given an added interest by their disagreement.

No one denies the advantage of a college education. But just how long should it be to produce the best results? As between a Schwab, with his wonderful mechanical talent which it needed no university to foster, and the college prize man whose Ph. D. is earning him a modest teacher's salary, what is the golden mean?

Is it not true that the longer a youth remains under the wing of his alma mater the further removed he becomes from the practical affairs of life? It is not the dean of the law school whose services are in request for the corporation law suit with millions at stake. It is not the professor in the scientific school whose experience is producing phonographs and automobiles or planning subways. The former train boy of the Grand Trunk road who gave us the electric light might have accomplished more with a college education, but if he had prolonged that education to the point where a professorship was offered him should we now regard him as "the wizard of Menlo Park?"

President James says that he "very often advises a college student as young as eighteen to drop his studies and go to work." It seems a wise paternalism. A boy of eighteen nowadays has acquired a substantial basis of education, and if he shows no especial aptitude for scholarship or original scientific investigation it is doubtless better to cast him adrift to become a bank president or a street-car magnate.

The world is pretty well stocked with young men in their twenties whose college diplomas show all-round attainments which have a small marketable value.

FREAK GOLF.

The royal and ancient game of golf has existed in England and Scotland from time immemorial as one of the most serious and self-respecting of sports. A player making the round of the links has always shown a proper appreciation of the dignity of the occupation. His demeanor has evolved an etiquette which is the admiration of the unenlightened. It has remained for a St. Louis club to give the soptr a freak aspect by the introduction of hippodrome features.

On the links of the Glen Echo Club a tournament is to be held by the conditions of which the contestants must wear high silk hats and appear in long frock coats. Those forty players thus arrayed are to take part in the contest.

Alas for the gymkhana innovation! What may not another season bring forth in vaudeville specialties on the links! Shall we have a match of left-handed players, a contest of armless wonders, a preliminary exhibition of handsprings on every tee, Lehigh diving off?

The freak idea is capable to-day's less development now that the fatal beginning is made.

The More Parents in Each Family, the Merrier.

South Dakota Has Happily Put Them Within the Reach of All Children.

IN former times small families of parents were to be found everywhere. Two was the customary number. Now, New York has reformed in that respect. South Dakota and other six-month resorts have made "parent-suicide" a thing of the past. Many a child can boast that his mother's eight divorced husbands are all living and that of his father's four divorced wives only one has died. Imagine that happy family circle! Nine living fathers and step-fathers and four living mothers and stepmothers! What a sweet picture as they and the one child cluster about the hospitable board! And Mr. Roosevelt looking on!

Formerly, too, it was possible for a woman to reply when questioned as to the number of her children:

"I have seven; four by my second husband's first wife and three by my first husband's second wife."

Now, happily, the conditions are reversed, and the single child can proudly boast:

"I've five parents; two by nature and three by South Dakota."

The banner block for parents in New York City is on Fifth avenue, of course; between Nos. 1,999,999 and 2,222,222. That one block alone contains 7,345 parents and two children. In horrible contrast may be cited those less fashionable blocks where three or even four children to the house can claim but two parents among them. The lot of these poor, insufficiently parentaged youngsters is too pitiful for mere words. How they must shrink with mortification as they trudge along beside their two paltry parents and watch Johnnie Van Slipknot riding past with an escort of no fewer than fourteen mothers and stepmothers!

In olden times, when the marriage knot was superstitiously regarded as uncuttable, there may have been some excuse for this paucity of parents. But now that prosperity has placed divorce within the reach of even the happiest, there can be no just reason for not raising a large family of parents.

If motives of patriotism do not appeal to children or if they fear they may not be able to find flats which are willing to accommodate so large a family, let them remember that a judicious series of divorce makes flats an unnecessary evil and permits the purchase of a large-sized house with a side graft at Newport and Lenox.

Children, let your motto be: "What is home without more parents!"

A. P. T.

LETTERS, QUESTIONS, ANSWERS.

Reveries of a Bachelor.

To the Editor of The Evening World:

In my bachelor reveries while reading my newspaper and smoking my pipe at home I very often soliloquize and think of my empty and desolate life. I have no one to love me, no little prattlers to meet me at the garden gate. There are a few young ladies I could love, but they do not seem to favor my suit. I suppose both sides are bashful and it needs a third party to push the suit along. I love my home and am never away from it, yet I am a bachelor. Can wise readers explain to me the reason for this? A. H.

Dragon Flies Are Harmless.

To the Editor of The Evening World:

Will you kindly let us know whether a dragon fly, or "darning needle" can sting and injure a person?

C. P. and J. McN.

The "darning needle" or dragon fly is not only absolutely harmless to human beings, but is their friend inasmuch as he destroys great numbers of mosquitoes. He has no sting.

People's Chorus, Cooper Union.

To the Editor of The Evening World:

How may I obtain singing lessons for a very small sum of money?

VIRGINIA K.

Yes.

To the Editor of The Evening World:

Was "Under Two Flags" ever played at the Garden Theatre? A. M.

Wants Cure for Bashfulness.

To the Editor of The Evening World:

Will readers please suggest to me a remedy for a man twenty-nine years of age who has not got nerve enough to go and call on a lady friend?

M. M. C., Point Pleasant, N. J.

In the World Almanac

To the Editor of The Evening World:

Where can I obtain a list of the public and high schools in New York City?

A. R,

Ninety-third Street and Amsterdam Avenue.

To the Editor of The Evening World:

Which would be the nearest evening high school for me to attend? I live at No. 63 East Ninety-third street.

EDWIN N.

He Should Walk on Side Nearest Curb.

To the Editor of The Evening World:

Is it proper for a gentleman to walk on the side nearest the curb when with two ladies, or should he walk between them? J. S.

MORNING.

We saw her baby eyes grow dim,
As fell the summer night,
And knew that all the things of earth
Were fading from her sight.

Her baby hands put out to touch
The faces that she knew—
So day went out, and all about
The shadows deeper grew.

We held these feeble hands to guide
Her up the narrow steep,
And felt the throbbing fever tide—
Our hearts too full to weep.

But with the faint first gleam of day
We knew that she had gone
Adown the happy sunrise way,
Across the peaks of dawn.

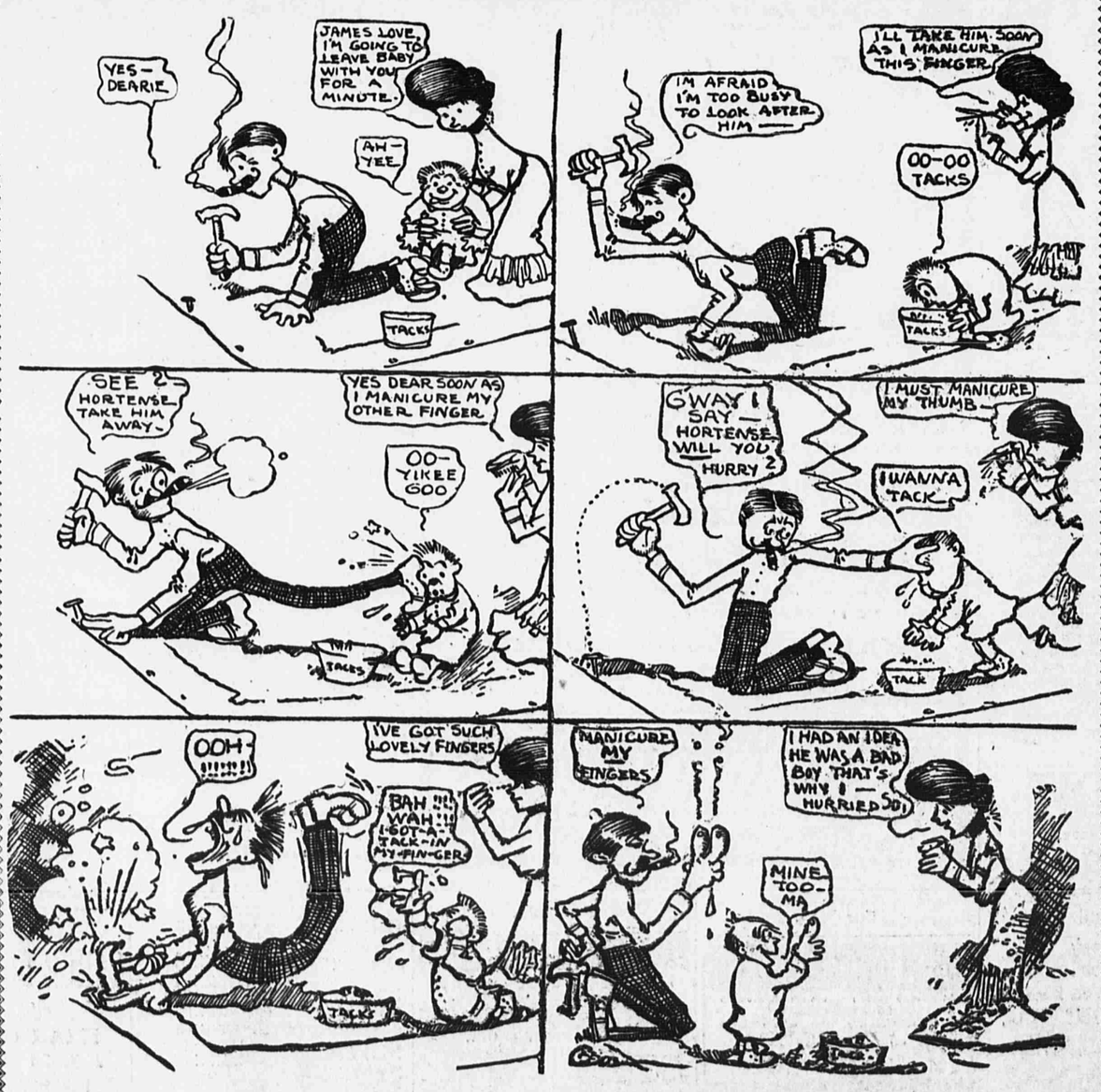
—Albert Bigelow Paine in The Independent.

The Importance of Mr. Peewee, the Great Little Man.

He Is Made to Appear Even Smaller than He Is by a Little Theatre-Ticket Incident.

Mrs. Waitaminnit--the Woman Who Is Always Late.

She Is Slow About Meeting an Emergency in Which Hubby, the Babe and a Tack Hammer Figure.



Stories Told About New Yorkers.

THE REV. APPLETON GRANNIS is credited by a parishioner with the following epigram. He and a brother cleric were speaking of a third clergyman, who had been obliged to leave his church on account of meagre attendance.

"I wonder at his lack of success," remarked the other minister. "He preached so well. His voice filled the church."

"Yes," assented Mr. Grannis, "but it didn't fill the pews."

* * *

"I took a Pittsburg friend slumming the other evening," said Chris Hawthorne yesterday, "and I found New York was even more cosmopolitan than I had dreamed. There are weird and wonderful spots in the lower quarters of New York where the student of foreign manners may satisfy his longing for the bizarre and sensational. If the slummer wants a real sensation let him take his party to the Battery, walk up through Washington street, thence across Broadway to State, on up through [illegible] thoroughfares of Roosevelt, across Chatham Square to Mott, around into Pell and Doyers, finishing there for the first evening's sport. He will have traversed no less than nine distinct and separate countries and rubbed elbows with as many nations, and wherever a bright window discloses a place of refreshment the party is sure to be treated with something unique, generally clean and far removed from things metropolitan.

The Man Higher Up.

Do the Rich Eat Too Much?

"I SEE that Dr. Shrady says the rich eat too much," said the Cigar Store Man.

"The doc. ought to know," answered the Man Higher Up. "His skill and knowledge in practising on the rich have netted him a large and juicy bank roll. If anybody ought to be wise to the causes of sickness in the '400' it is Dr. Shrady.

"It seems to me that it is not the amount the rich eat that founders them and makes them eligible for the obese stakes, but the quality of the stuff. There are a great many rich people in this town, hundreds and thousands of them, and many are as fit as any hod carrier or longshoreman on the eating proposition, because they stick to plain food.

"Take a man who eats ham and eggs for breakfast, beefsteak and fried potatoes for lunch and roast beef for dinner every day in the year and he has got a digestion up among the pictures. Let him get steered against goose livers and truffles and sauces designed to disguise the stuff they are put on and his digestion will take a sudden and explicit departure.

"John D. Rockefeller is the richest man in the United States. He dines sumptuously on crackers and milk. A good meal of corned beef and cabbage would make him feel like he had swallowed a bag of loaded revolvers. Nobody ever accused John D. of spreading his dough out with a shovel when he went to eat, even in his young days. His assimilating apparatus went on the razmataz because it was wrong to start with. If he had remained healthy all his life he wouldn't have so much of the cush.

"The healthiest men I know are tugboat hands, and to see those guys eat is a real joy. I have seen five of them clean up a cake of soggy Boston brown bread as big as a tub, about a gallon of baked beans with molasses on them, five steaks that you couldn't dent with an axe, about six pounds of greasy potatoes, two pies and enough coffee to swim a Newfoundland dog in, at one sitting. Just after they got through two of them went to bed and slept like babies for six hours, while the tug turned somersaults in a raging sea.

"For breakfast they went against hot biscuits, pancakes, fat pork, fried eggs and coffee, and they seemed to enjoy it. The captain told me that this was their repertoire the year round, except when they were on shore and convenient to rum, and that never a man of the crew had had a sick day.

"Go into a swell restaurant and you will find a lot of people sitting around who look dopey. They are eating all sorts of combinations in the food line or piling stuff away in courses and washing it down with wine or beer. Go out into the kitchen at meal times and see the waiters, and cooks, and dishwashers, and other hired hands eat. They are on a plain diet, and every one of them is hurling in food like it was a time job, and every one of them is healthy."

"If I was as rich as Rockefeller," said the Cigar Store Man, "I'd live on the fat of the land."

"Well," remarked the Man Higher Up, "if he don't live on the fat of the land he lives on the oil of the land and the whole world is his salad."

Odd Street Names.

In Clerkenwell, England, there is a street called "Pickled Egg walk." It takes its name from Pickled Egg tavern, which formerly stood there and made a specialty of serving pickled eggs. An interesting London thoroughfare is "Hanging Sword alley," which is mentioned in Dickens's "Tale of Two Cities." London has also "Pickleberring street." In Leicester is a street called "The Holy Bones" and another called "Gallows Tree Gate." Hull has a street with the extraordinary name, "The Land of Green Ginger." Corydon has a street named "Pump Pail" and there some years ago lived Peter Pottle, a dealer in furniture. The most daring of farce writers might well have hesitated to invent a combination of name and address so improbable as that which really belonged to Petar Pottle, of Pump Pail.

Fishes' Eyesight.

In the water fishes see only at very close range—about half their own length. This will seem, perhaps, unlikely to anglers, although some of them can cite instances showing that fishes cannot see far. Snakes seem to have a very mediocre sense of sight. The boa, for instance, does not see at more than a quarter or a third of its own length. Different species are limited to one-fifth or one-eighth of their length. Frogs are better off; they see at fifteen or twenty times their length.

Uncle Sam's Exports.

Products of agriculture have always formed the largest share of our exports. In 1880 they formed 85 per cent. of the total exports, and manufactures formed but 12 per cent. of the total. In 1900 agricultural products formed but 61 per cent. of the total, while manufactures had so increased that they formed 31 per cent. of the total. The exportation of agricultural products has increased less than 40 per cent. since 1880, while that of manufactures has increased 300 per cent. in that time.

Health and Sneezing.

"When a man sneezes heartily he may know himself to be healthy. No person in poor health ever sneezes," says the eminent doctor, Sir Jonathan Hutchinson. This statement will be challenged by those familiar with the plague, who know that hearty sneezing is its first symptom. Every one knows that a series of sneezes comes in the first stage of catching cold and that the hay-fever victim sneezes to his great discomfort.

Animal Language.

Animals have a language, made up of signs or inarticulate sounds expressing impressions, sensations, passions, but never ideas. So this language excludes conversation and is limited to interjections or signs or movements expressing joy, grief, fear, anger, all the passions of the senses, but never more.

Lutherans Lead.

The Lutheran Church ranks first among Protestant denominations in the United States, having 1,200 congregations and a membership of 1,800,000, 48 theological seminaries, 42 colleges, 50 academies, 10 young ladies' seminaries, 22 hospitals, 53 orphan asylums, 20 homes for the aged and 8 deaconess houses.

Japanese Tobacco.

Tobacco is both cultivated and consumed on a large scale in Japan. The plant was introduced by the Portuguese in the seventeenth century, and the trade in it is a Government monopoly. Tobacco is almost universally used in a small pipe. While cigarettes are manufactured in large quantities they are nearly all exported.